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ABSTRACT

Taped before an audience of teachers from around the country, this 65-minute videotape presents a discussion between James Comer and Chip Wood, noted experts in child development and education, in which they converse and respond to questions about critical issues confronting educators today. During the first part of the video, Comer and Wood discuss why it is important to incorporate child development information into classroom and educational policy, the role of the attachment between student and teacher in learning, the importance of a school climate to nurture a supportive teacher-student relationship, and how the overemphasis on standards and accountability can ignore children's needs. In addition, barriers to integrating child development into education are discussed, including societal barriers, lack of professional training on applying developmental principles, and the pressures to increase test scores. The second part of the video presents Comer and Wood responding to questions from the audience regarding inclusion, voucher programs, attention deficit disorder, teachers' emotions, common misconceptions about child development, and the responsibility of the schools to address moral issues. (KB)